

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING
of the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
and the
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 30, 2004

1. Call to order.

The two hundred ninety fourth joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chairperson Jerome C. Daniel at 7:37 p.m. on August 30, 2004 at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens, 570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Los Angeles, California.

2. Roll Call of Conservancy.

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Elizabeth Cheadle, Vice Chairperson, Jerome C. Daniel, Chairperson, Steve Horn, Linda Parks, Hal Ross, Ron Schafer and Jonathan Zasloff. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Ed Begley, Jr., and David Widell. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Woody Smeck.

3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: David Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Heinz Ellersieck, Richard Gould, Mark Johnson, George Lange, Roseann Mikos, Anthony Portantino, Vice Chairperson, Barry Read, Don Robinson, Chairperson, Paul Rockenstein, Bruce Saito, Thomas Seifert, Lorraine Slattery, Nancy Stephens, Timothy Wendler, Garen Yegparian. The following members were absent: Claudia Bill De La Peña, Caroline Brown, Alan Kishbaugh, Dennis Seider, and Marc Stirdivant. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Lesley Devine and Linda Palmer.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Staff Counsel; Reva Feldman, Assistant Financial Officer; Rhett Robb, Financial Analyst, Tracy Dockery; Staff Services Manager, and James Yeramian,

Board Secretary.

4. Introduction of Legislative Participants or their staff.

The Chair announced that Laura Plotkin and Ernestine Moore were present. The following legislative participants were absent: Louise Rishoff, George Magallanes, and Chi Mui.

5. Approval of Minutes.

The minutes of March 22, 2004 were submitted for approval.

The minutes of March 22, 2004 were approved as submitted.

6. Reports.

The Conservancy and the Advisory Committee received verbal reports from the Chair; Michael Berger, Chairperson of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority; Woody Smeck, Ron Schafer, and Richard Gould.

7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.

Comments were made by Messrs. Brown and Portantino.

8. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Hon. Jose Huizar, LAUSD Board Member President, on item 13.

Mr. Eric Edmunds, representing the Brentwood Hills Homeowners Association, on item not on the agenda.

9. Consent Calender:

- (a) Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to include provision for adoption of an annual workprogram.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution confirming the August 11, 2004 comment letter to the United States Forest Service regarding National Forest Land Management Plans and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.**

- (c) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter to United States Forest Service regarding proposed rule on travel management: designated routes and areas for motor vehicle use.**

At the request of Mr. Portantino, item 9(b) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 04-56 and 04-58.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution Nos. 04-56 and 04-58 were unanimously adopted.

- 9(b). Consideration of resolution confirming the August 11, 2004 comment letter to the United States Forest Service regarding National Forest Land Management Plans and Draft Environmental Impact Statement.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Portantino.

Comments were made by the Chief Deputy Director.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Ms. Parks.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Portantino, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-57.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-57 was unanimously adopted.

10. Consent Calendar of Coastal Items:

- (a) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the addition of Soledad Canyon-Upper Clara River Habitat Linkage; Topanga Canyon-Kerry Lane; and Topanga**

**Canyon-Garapito Canyon-Hillside Drive to the Santa Monica Mountains
Conservancy Land Acquisition Workprogram.**

- (b) Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to City of Malibu on General Plan Amendment No. 02-004, Initial Study No. 04-003, and Negative Declaration No. 04-001 to amend the General Plan to incorporate revised trail maps from the Trails Master Plan.**

At the request of the Chair, item 10(b) was removed from the Consent Calendar.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-59.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Parks, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-59 was unanimously adopted.

- 10(b). Consideration of resolution authorizing comment letter to City of Malibu on General Plan Amendment No. 02-004, Initial Study No. 04-003, and Negative Declaration No. 04-001 to amend the General Plan to incorporate revised trail maps from the Trails Master Plan.**

Comments were made by Ginny Kruger, Assistant Chief Deputy, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-60.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Smeck, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-60 was unanimously adopted.

The Chair announced that item 12 would be heard next.

- 12. Presentation by Macias, Gini and Company and consideration of resolution adopting the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's revised cost allocation methodology.**

Comments were made by Jim Godsey, President of Macias, Gini, and Company.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Mikos.

Comments were made by Mr. Godsey.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Devine.

Comments were made by Mr. Godsey.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Robinson.

Comments were made by Mr. Godsey.

Questions were propounded by Ms. Parks.

Comments were made by Mr. Zasloff.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Lange, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-61.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-61 was unanimously adopted.

11. Discussion and possible action on comments regarding impact of California Performance Review upon the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Zasloff, Ms. Mikos, Mr. Saito, Ms. Divine, and Messrs. Brown, Robinson, and Schafer.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director, Mr. Zasloff, Ms. Parks, and Mr. Robinson.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by Ms. Plotkin, the Chief Staff Counsel, Ms. Divine and Mr. Saito.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Yegparian.

Comments were made by Mr. Corridori.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Chief Staff Counsel and the Executive Director.

Discussion of this item was delegated to a subcommittee to meet on September 10, 2004.

13. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for construction and project management for Phase I and a portion of Phase II of the Vista Hermosa Los Angeles River Watershed Restoration Project, Los Angeles.

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-63.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-63 was unanimously adopted.

14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design services for projects in the Upper Los Angeles River watershed and Santa Monica Mountains coastal watershed portions of the Santa Monica Mountains Zone.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Mikos, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-64.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-64 was unanimously adopted.

15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design services for the Soka University acquisition project, unincorporated Calabasas area.

Comments were made by Ms. Devine and Mr. Brown.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Stephens, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-65.

Mr. Corridori was noted as abstaining from this item.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-65 was unanimously adopted.

- 16. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the South Pasadena -Arroyo Seco Woodland and Wildlife Park Restoration project, South Pasadena.**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-66.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-29 was unanimously adopted.

- 17. Consideration of resolution approving a Project Plan pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 33209 in connection with the possible acquisition of approximately 588 acres (APNs 4455-015-002; 4455-016-032 and 033; 4455-028-043; 4455-033-003, 005, 006, 007, 009, 010, 011, 018, 021, 022, 023, and 026; 4455-034-001; 4455-035-001; 4455-040-007 and 010), 26000 Mulholland Highway, Los Angeles County, commonly known as Soka University.**

The Executive Director presented the Staff Report for this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-67.

Mr. Corridori was noted as abstaining from this item.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-67 was unanimously adopted.

- 18. Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into the Newhall Ranch High Country Recreation and Conservation Authority, a joint exercise of powers agreement between the City of Santa Clarita, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the County of Los Angeles.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Lange.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Gould, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-68.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Cheadle, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-68 was unanimously adopted.

- 19. Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority FY 2004-2005 final budget.**

Comments were made by the Assistant Financial Officer and the Financial Analyst.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Saito, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 04-69.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, Resolution No. 04-69 was unanimously adopted.

- 20. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al; Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission; Friends of Temescal Canyon,***

Inc. v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al, and Conference with legal counsel - potential litigation.

No closed session was held.

21. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on September 27, 2004. There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, FAICP
Executive Director

JEROME C. DANIEL
Chairperson